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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 IN RE: CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS
4 ANTITRUST LITIGATION,

13 MD 2476 (DLC)

5 New York, N.Y.
6 April 15, 2016
2:00 p.m.

7 Before:

8 HON. DENISE COTE

9 District Judge

10 APPEARANCES

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A P P E A R A N C E S
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1 THE DEPUTY CLERK: This is the matter of In Re Credit
2 Default Swaps Antitrust Litigation. Judge Cote will take the
3 appearances.

4 THE COURT: For the plaintiffs, we'll start with
5 Mr. Brockett, is it?

6 MR. BROCKETT: Yes. Dan Brockett from Quinn Emanuel
7 on behalf of the plaintiffs.

8 MR. OLSON: Steig Olson with Quinn Emanuel.

9 MR. RAND: Sascha Rand, Quinn Emanuel.

10 MR. HERRERA: Michael Herrera, lead plaintiff, Los
11 Angeles County Employees Retirement Association.

12 THE COURT: Thank you for traveling here, Mr. Herrera.
13 I have some questions for you. I appreciate it very much.

14 MR. SIMON: Bruce Simon on behalf of plaintiffs.

15 MR. TREVOR: George Trevor on behalf of plaintiffs.

16 MR. PEARSON: Clifford Pearson.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. Any other appearances for
18 plaintiffs? We'll take appearances for the defendants Bank of
19 America.

20 MR. BURKE: Arthur Burke, Davis Polk, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Are you accompanied by a colleague,
22 Mr. Burke, or not?

23 MR. BURKE: Olga Kagen as well.

24 THE COURT: Olga Kagen?

25 MR. BURKE: Cogan, I apologize. C-O-G-A-N.

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1 THE COURT: Barclays?

2 MR. JANUSZEWSKI: David Januszewski from Cahill Gordon
3 & Reindel.

4 THE COURT: Bank Paribas?

5 MR. ESSEX: David Essex and Laura Rittell, Allen &
6 Overy.

7 THE COURT: For Citigroup?

8 MR. NAGIN: Benjamin Nagin from Sidley Austin, and
9 Katherine Englander.

10 THE COURT: For Credit Swiss?

11 MR. HOLT: Benjamin Holt from Hogan Lovells.

12 MR. LESSER: And David Lesser from Wilmer Hale.

13 THE COURT: For Deutsche Bank?

14 MS. RENDER: Paula Render and Tracy Schaffer from
15 Jones Day. Thank you.

16 THE COURT: For Goldman Sachs?

17 MR. PEPPERMAN: Richard Pepperman from Sullivan &
18 Cromwell. With me is Elizabeth Papez from Winston & Strawn.

19 THE COURT: So Mr. Pepperman, we didn't have your name
20 on the appearance sheet. Did I have that right, Pepperman?

21 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yes, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Thank you. For ISDA.

23 MR. GARVEY: Michael Garvey and Abram Ellis from
24 Simpson Thacher.

25 THE COURT: For Chase?

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1 MR. GREENE: Peter Greene from Skadden Arps and Boris
2 Bershteyn.

3 THE COURT: For Markit?

4 MR. CHUK: Steven Chuk, Proskauer Rose.

5 THE COURT: For Morgan Stanley?

6 MR. SLIFKIN: Daniel Slifkin and Vanessa Lavelly from
7 Cravath, Swaine & Moore.

8 THE COURT: For HSBC?

9 MR. MAROVITZ: Andy Marovitz from Mayer Brown.

10 THE COURT: For RBS?

11 MS. RAY: Amy Ray, Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft.

12 THE COURT: For UBS?

13 MR. BOHAN: David Bohan, Katten Muchin Rosenmann.

14 THE COURT: And I think that completes the appearances
15 for the defendants. Is there anyone I missed? No.

16 Let's go to the objectors then for MF Global.

17 MR. ZELCS: George Zelcs from Korein Tillery.

18 THE COURT: For SABA. Am I pronouncing that right,
19 Mr. Zelcs?

20 MR. ZELCS: Yes, you are, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: For Silver Point?

22 MR. KING: I'm Ben King from Reid Collins & Tsai.

23 THE COURT: We have two other objectors. I'll just
24 make sure that they aren't here in the courtroom, I don't
25 expect them to appear given the letters I received this week.

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1 But I'll just take their appearances for the record.

2 Anchorage. Is anywhere here for Anchorage? Anyone
3 here for FFI? I believe we have, ah-ha, a class member from
4 Blue Mountain.

5 MR. RUBENSTEIN: David Rubenstein from Blue Mountain.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Rubenstein, Blue Mountain was
7 mentioned prominently in the papers submitted to me. You're
8 one of two big blue entities that was mentioned.

9 Anyone else who has appeared and would like to have
10 their appearance noted on the record? Good.

11 Well, thank you all for being here at this fairness
12 hearing. I thought I'd outline the schedule for this
13 afternoon's proceeding, at least my proposed schedule for how
14 we deal with the various issues that have been presented to me.

15 I thought I'd deal with the fairness of the settlement
16 first. There have been two issues raised about the release,
17 then I'd move to attorneys' fees. After that, we'd address
18 issues related to the plan of allocation, and in connection
19 with that, I've addressed the Dodd-Frank issue first. The
20 issue about covered transactions and whether there should be
21 appeal rights from a denial, index rolls, and the proper
22 adjustment for the spreads. And then any other objections.

23 And with respect to other objections, I have three
24 objectors who are present and two counsel on behalf of the
25 three. Happy to hear from those three objectors who are

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1 represented in court today, and we'll just see how we are on
2 timing, whether or not it's important for me to impose some
3 kind of time limits. I'll give you advance notice if I do.

4 But I'd ask you to think, as we work our way down this
5 agenda to get to your oral argument, should you wish to make
6 any regarding your written objections, that you prioritize your
7 objections so that I'm sure to reach those which you still wish
8 to make and you believe are the most important.

9 Then I want to leave time at the end for a description
10 of what I think the governing law will be on any Rule 7 bond,
11 should I have an application in the future for such a bond.

12 So, that's the outline I thought I'd pursue.
13 Obviously, everyone in this courtroom no doubt realizes there
14 is no objection to the fairness of the settlement or to the
15 attorneys' fees request. So, I'm not anticipating that those
16 will eat up all our afternoon, but obviously we'll take these
17 in order and make sure we get through the agenda. I'm ready to
18 rule on the fairness of the settlement. But I don't want
19 anyone to be deprived of an opportunity to be heard if they
20 would like to be heard.

21 Sorry if anyone can't hear me. Please, let me know
22 and I'll keep my voice up.

23 Is there anyone who would like to be heard on the
24 issue of the fairness of the settlement?

25 MR. BROCKETT: Your Honor, I'm prepared to address the

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1 question of the scope of the release, if the Court would like.
2 Beyond that, I have no intention of addressing any other aspect
3 of the overall fairness of the settlement.

4 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Brockett. Let me proceed
5 then to discuss the issue of the fairness of the settlement and
6 then we'll turn to the release separately.

7 The first antitrust action in this litigation was
8 filed on May 3, 2013. At the core of this litigation is a
9 desire to address the historical absence of price transparency
10 and competition in the CDS market. After the MDL transfer all
11 related actions to this court, Quinn Emanuel and Pearson Simon
12 were appointed co-lead counsel on December 13, 2013, and in the
13 week that followed. LACERA and Salix have functioned as lead
14 plaintiffs. In less than two years following that appointment,
15 the class had achieved a remarkable settlement with the
16 defendants. The defendants are 12 banks that sold credit
17 default swaps, as well as ISDA, and the two Markit entities.

18 By the fall of 2015, the defendants had agreed to
19 settlement payments collectively of \$1,864,650,000 or almost
20 \$1.9 billion. Defendant ISDA also agreed to changes to its
21 licensing practices in a way that is intended to increase
22 transparency and competition in the CDS market. This
23 settlement, reached in the midst of fact discovery and with the
24 plaintiffs' class certification motion due to be filed, is all
25 the more impressive because the two separate government

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1 investigations into the practices at issue here were closed
2 without any charges being filed, at least against the dealer
3 defendants. The DoJ investigation is reported to have closed
4 sometime in 2013; the European Commission's investigation
5 closed on December 4, 2015, just months after this settlement
6 was reached.

7 This settlement, particularly its size, is
8 attributable in no small measure to the skill of class counsel
9 and the litigation strategy it employed. Class counsel worked
10 with lightning speed. The decision on the motions to dismiss
11 was issued in September 2014. Because the first wave of
12 document production by defendants were those documents produced
13 in the government investigations, it was a massive production.
14 Class counsel developed and utilized research tools that
15 allowed it to quickly locate critical documents, prepare a
16 draft narrative of key events, and identify key witnesses.
17 Accordingly, they were able to present a detailed mediation
18 brief and PowerPoint presentation in the first mediation
19 session held with Daniel Weinstein on January 22, 2015, and to
20 present a preliminary damage model at the March 31, 2015,
21 mediation session. By July 29, class counsel had taken 27 of
22 the 46 depositions noticed by that date.

23 The motion for class certification was initially due
24 on August 31. Before that date, the tentative individual
25 settlements had been reached. The settlements had been

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1 finalized by the end of September. The motion for preliminary
2 approval was submitted on October 16, the new day on which the
3 motion for class certification was due.

4 Essential to this settlement was the work class
5 counsel did with its experts to prepare a damages model. That
6 same work is the basis for the plan of allocation proposed for
7 this settlement, and it deserves to be described.

8 Class counsel collected data on CDS transactions from
9 January 2008 to September 2015 in each of the major categories
10 of CDS transactions, including single name, index, tranche
11 index, structured credit, and CDS options, which I've come to
12 be learned are called "swaptions." The data spanned thousands
13 of contracts and millions of transactions. It included
14 corresponding data on the bid-ask spreads quoted in these
15 instruments each day or virtually every day.

16 The information on the executed transactions came from
17 the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC). Its
18 reports capture over 90 percent of all CDS transactions. DTCC
19 provided over 159 million transaction records. These included
20 data on 3,500 distinct reference entities.

21 While the DTCC data captures payment information, it
22 does not capture the bid and ask prices quoted by the dealer
23 pursuant to which the transaction was executed. To infer the
24 bid-ask spreads incurred by buy-side entities on CDS
25 transactions, class counsel obtained data from Markit Group

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1 Limited, which is a defendant and also the leading source of
2 such data. Markit gathers information on the bid-ask spreads
3 quoted by dealers during the course of a trading day by parsing
4 electronic messages conveyed by dealers to market participants
5 and extracting the relevant quote information from the
6 messages. The Markit database produced here contained almost
7 3.2 billion records of bid-ask spreads for the period.

8 Because DTCC's data only reflect the day of the trade,
9 and not the time during the day at which the trade occurred,
10 class counsel constructed an average bid-ask spread for the day
11 using the Markit data. The Markit data provides specific times
12 for each bid-ask quote. Class counsel took the inside spread,
13 that is the tightest spread, during each trading hour to
14 calculate an average spread for each day. This average spread
15 was used to estimate the bid-ask spread for each transaction
16 involving the specific CDS reference contract on that day.
17 Plaintiffs' expert Dr. Sanjay Unni describes this process in
18 detail in his declaration of April 1. He describes as well
19 substitute calculations that were made when the data was
20 insufficient or sparse.

21 At the urging of the mediator, the plaintiff produced
22 a copy of its damages model as well as the dataset used to
23 calculate damages to the defendants. While the defendants had
24 a critique of that model, which they presented to the
25 plaintiffs on June 8 of last year, this exchange of detailed

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1 information reinforces the judgment that the settlement reached
2 here followed extensive investigation of the underlying facts
3 and theories being litigated.

4 The reaction of the class to the settlement has been
5 overwhelmingly positive. While the reaction of a class to a
6 settlement is always important, here it is especially
7 significant it is an especially significant comment on the
8 quality of the settlement, since the class is composed of
9 sophisticated parties who participate in buy-side trading of
10 credit default swaps.

11 Because of the access to trading record, it was
12 possible to identify and reach most potential class members.
13 Almost 14,000 settlement class members were identified. They
14 were mailed notice packets on January 11, 2016. While some of
15 the mailings were returned as undeliverable, reasonable efforts
16 were made to locate every identified class member.

17 I wonder if class counsel were able to give me an
18 estimate of how many class members they were not able
19 ultimately to reach by mail, Mr. Brockett?

20 MR. BROCKETT: Yes, your Honor. Without going through
21 all of the steps, there were 13,923 mailings sent out. And we
22 believe through identifying alternative addresses and other due
23 diligence that the claims administrator was able to reach
24 13,375, which is approximately a little over 90 percent of the
25 class members. And when I say we reached them, there were

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1 13,375 mailings for which we did not receive a delivery failure
2 notice. So it is 13,375 out of a total of 13,923.

3 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

4 In addition, of course, given its magnitude, the
5 settlement received widespread publicity. Notice was also
6 published on January 11 in several important business
7 publications.

8 By January 28 class members were able, by visiting the
9 claimant portal on the settlement website, to review their own
10 covered transactions, that is, those transactions that class
11 counsel had identified as eligible for compensation from the
12 settlement fund. Close to 10,000 distinct visitors have
13 visited that website. In addition, the claims administrator
14 has received almost 1,000 calls, and as of April 1, 585 claim
15 forms.

16 That number has probably increased since that date.
17 Do we have a current number, Mr. Brockett?

18 MR. BROCKETT: Yes. Approximately 700, a little short
19 of 700 claims have been filed, covering approximately \$2
20 trillion in no-show trading.

21 THE COURT: Thank you.

22 The last date for submission for claims is May 27.
23 Therefore, the class has received effective and sufficient
24 notice of the settlement.

25 Against this backdrop, it is telling that only 21

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1 requests for exclusion were timely submitted by February 29.
2 Many of those were made on behalf of related entities.
3 Therefore, it appears that there are effectively five
4 independent requests for exclusion. There have been only five,
5 now four, objections filed to the settlement. None of these
6 objections question the fairness or adequacy of the settlement.
7 They do not criticize either the amount contributed by the
8 defendants to the settlement fund or the terms of the
9 injunctive relief, nor do they object to the amount sought in
10 attorneys' fees. The bulk of the objection goes to the plan of
11 allocation, and I will address that separately later this
12 afternoon.

13 In an October 15 declaration, the mediator praised the
14 settlement result here as exceptional. The mediator worked
15 with the parties for nine months and invested over 400 hours of
16 his own time. He describes the work of class counsel as one of
17 the finest examples of efficient and effective lawyering by
18 plaintiffs' counsel that he had ever witnessed. In making this
19 judgment, he took note of the complexity and size of the
20 litigation, and the speed with which class counsel achieved a
21 result of this magnitude. He reports that settlement
22 negotiations were exhaustive and conducted at arm's length by
23 sophisticated, knowledgeable, and fully-informed counsel. In
24 his opinion, the settlement is not just fair and adequate, but
25 exceedingly favorable to the class, reflecting a recovery well

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1 beyond what he expected could be achieved.

2 To place this judgment in context, the preliminary
3 damages estimates of the plaintiffs forecast damages at roughly
4 \$8 to \$12 billion. The recovery here, therefore, reflects 15
5 to 23 percent of the amount which plaintiffs may have sought at
6 trial.

7 LACERA, which is one of the largest county retirement
8 systems in the U.S. with investment assets of over \$48 billion,
9 was one of the lead plaintiffs for the class and fully supports
10 the settlement. Its lead in-house counsel for this litigation
11 considers the settlement an excellent result for the class.
12 While it appears that LACERA does not have the largest stake in
13 the settlement fund, it has a very substantial one. At the
14 time its counsel applied to be appointed as class counsel,
15 LACERA reported that it had purchased and sold over 2.8 billion
16 of CDS between January 1, 2008, and filing of its initial
17 complaint on October 28, 2013. This substantial stake gives
18 LACERA strong incentive to examine the settlement and the
19 performance of class counsel with care.

20 Let me turn to the *Grinnell* factors to the extent I
21 have not already covered them. The first is of course the
22 complexity, expense, and likely duration of the litigation.
23 This is highly complex litigation, it's been extremely
24 expensive to litigate, and no doubt for the defendants as well
25 as the plaintiffs. And the plaintiffs predict that if the

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1 class had been certified, the case would not have ended at a
2 summary judgment stage, but instead would have required a trial
3 and of course an expectation of an appeal to follow.

4 The second factor is the reaction of the class to the
5 settlement. I've described that already. It's been extremely
6 positive.

7 The third factor is the stage of the proceedings and
8 the amount of discovery completed. Document production was
9 very substantially completed. Many depositions were taken
10 between June 8 and July 29 as described.

11 The fourth factor is the risk of establishing
12 liability. Here, I'd say that is a little hard for me to
13 weigh. On the one hand, we have two government investigations
14 that were closed. On the other hand, we have a very
15 substantial payment. There were, of course, a number of
16 defenses that have been outlined in the papers to me that there
17 was no illegal agreement among the defendants, that the CMDX
18 would not have been a viable exchange platform, among many
19 others.

20 So, I'm going to say that the risk of establishing
21 liability might have been very high, except for the aggressive
22 conduct of discovery by class counsel. That's my best
23 evaluation of that factor.

24 The fifth factor is the risk of establishing damages.
25 Well, I think causation and the methodology for establishing

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1 damages were hotly contested, and I expect they would have been
2 through trial.

3 The sixth factor is the risk of maintaining the class
4 action through trial. It is hard to weigh. I didn't get a
5 motion. My guess is that it would have been certified and
6 maintained through trial.

7 The seventh factor is the ability of the defendants to
8 withstand a greater judgment. Yes, they could have paid more,
9 but this is a very substantial amount.

10 The eighth factor is the range of reasonableness of
11 the settlement fund, in light of the best possible recovery. I
12 have estimates here that over 1,300 class members will receive
13 payments of over \$100,000, and that over 230 class members will
14 receive payments of over \$1 million. This is a substantial
15 settlement. I find it is entitled to a judgment that it is
16 reasonable in the circumstances, if not generous.

17 The last factor is the range of reasonableness of the
18 settlement fund to a possible recovery in light of all of the
19 attendant risks of litigation. I again find that factor to be
20 excellent.

21 Therefore, I find the settlement here, both the
22 monetary and injunctive terms of the settlement, to be fair,
23 adequate and reasonable.

24 The next issue to address I believe is the scope of
25 release issue. Let me describe the standards that I'll apply.

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1 Parties may "reach broad settlement agreements
2 encompassing claims not presented in the complaint in order to
3 achieve comprehensive settlement of class actions, particularly
4 when a defendant's ability to limit his future liability is an
5 important factor in his willingness to settle." *In re Literary*
6 *Works*, 654 F.3d at 247-248. Accordingly, "class action
7 releases may include claims not presented and even those which
8 could not have been presented, as long as the released conduct
9 arises out of the identical factual predicate as the settled
10 conduct." *In re American Express*, 672 F.3d at 135.

11 The determination of whether a claim pleaded in a
12 separate lawsuit is predicated on sufficiently similar facts as
13 the class action claim to be barred by a class action
14 settlement release "is inherently an individualized,
15 fact-specific one." *WorldCom*, 388 F. Supp. 2d, 342 n.36.

16 The scope of a release is also limited by the adequacy
17 of representation doctrine. "Adequate representation of a
18 particular claim is determined by the alignment of interests of
19 class members, not proof of vigorous pursuit of that claim."
20 *Walmart*, 396 F.3d, 113. Because a settlement may bar future
21 claims, it is essential that there be adequate notice of the
22 effect of the release and compensation for released claims.
23 *WorldCom*, 2004 WL 2591402, at *12.

24 It's not clear to me that the two objections based on
25 the scope of the release are still at play here. There have

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1 been subsequent submissions that haven't made reference to
2 them. But out of an excess of caution, I want to address them
3 and make sure we cover those issues.

4 Silver Point and MF Global both make complaints
5 related to the scope of the release. MF Global is concerned
6 that the defendants' efforts to prevent MF Global from
7 launching its own clearing and market making business may be
8 barred by the scope of the release. Silver Point was concerned
9 about releasing claims based on trading after September 2015.

10 I've looked at the release again with care. I looked
11 at it at the time of the preliminary approval here. I think it
12 gave adequate notice to class members of what was being covered
13 by its terms, so they could make the decision in a reasonably
14 informed way whether to opt out or not, if they were unhappy
15 about its breadth or its effect on any lawsuit they were
16 contemplating.

17 I think it's fair to find that it's precise and
18 reasonable and appropriate to the circumstances of this case.

19 My current view is that beyond making the observations
20 I just have and a few more I'll make now, that it would be
21 premature for me to rule on whether any claim that might be
22 brought in the future by some party would or would not be
23 barred by the terms of this release. If another lawsuit is
24 brought and an application is made to me to enforce the
25 release, I'll be happy to consider that application, and give

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1 everyone an opportunity to be heard at that time.

2 I must say, and this is of course just a summary of
3 some of the key terms of the release, but in paragraph 4(d),
4 the settlement agreements that I'm being asked to sign release
5 claims arising from or relating to conduct occurring prior to
6 June 30, 2014, relating in any way to CDS transactions.

7 Now, if I get an application at some later date,
8 obviously I'll look with care not just at this language, but
9 with all the language in the release, the rest of the language
10 in paragraph 4(d), all the terms of the release beyond that.
11 But, I want to give anybody an opportunity to be heard on the
12 release issue, beyond what I've said.

13 Is there anyone who wishes to address the release
14 issues?

15 MR. ZELCS: May I? George Zelcs. The only point I'd
16 like to make is I think it is fairly clear that the factual --
17 the factual predicate here for a clearing claim is not the same
18 that's been at issue in this case. Since this case has been
19 limited to bid-ask spreads on CDS trades. That simply is the
20 only comment I'd have for you.

21 THE COURT: I'm not going to rule on that. If and
22 when you bring a lawsuit, if that was your position, you
23 probably should have opted out. But if and when you bring
24 another lawsuit, or bring a lawsuit, and if and when I have an
25 application to enforce the release, I'll be happy to consider

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1 your arguments at that time, and give anyone else who wishes to
2 be heard an opportunity to address me.

3 MR. ZELCS: Thank you, your Honor.

4 THE COURT: You're welcome.

5 That takes us to attorneys' fees.

6 Attorneys whose work created a common fund for the
7 benefit of a group of plaintiffs may receive reasonable
8 attorneys' fees from the fund. Courts may award attorneys'
9 fees in common fund cases under either the lodestar method or
10 the percentage of fund method, although the trend in this
11 circuit is toward the percentage method.

12 The six *Goldberger* factors are applicable to the
13 court's reasonableness determination under either method.

14 Under the PSLRA, there is a well-recognized rebuttable
15 presumption of correctness given to the terms of an ex ante fee
16 agreement between class counsel and lead plaintiff. *Flanagan*,
17 814 F.3d, 659; *Cendant*, 264 F.3d, 282. But the District Court
18 must be mindful that it must act as guardian in the rights of
19 absent class members in assessing whether a presumption of
20 correctness has been properly refuted and then, if indeed it
21 has, determining on its own the appropriate fee allocation.
22 *Flanagan*, 814 F.3d at 659.

23 I believe there is no reason not to apply such a
24 rebuttable presumption to the examination of an ex ante fee
25 arrangement in a common fund antitrust case, at least where it

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1 has been negotiated with a sophisticated benefits fund with
2 fiduciary obligations to its members, and a sizable stake in
3 the litigation, as is true here.

4 So, before I move to the factors, the six factors I'm
5 going to evaluate or weigh in ruling on this fee request, I
6 have a few questions about the agreement, the LACERA agreement
7 with counsel. And again, Mr. Herrera, I want to thank you for
8 being here.

9 I issued an order earlier this week giving notice of
10 the *WorldCom* fee agreement which provides a quite different
11 scale or grid than LACERA used. And if for no other purpose
12 than to help me, help bring me up to speed 10 years later, I'd
13 like to understand it to the extent, Mr. Herrera, you're able
14 to explain to me, why these two grids are so different.

15 MR. HERRERA: May I approach the podium?

16 Thank you, your Honor. Good afternoon again. I
17 appreciate the opportunity to address the Court. It reflects
18 your Honor's diligence in this matter. I believe it also
19 reflects the seriousness and the importance that my client
20 LACERA attaches to our involvement and its seriousness in
21 fulfilling its fiduciary duties, both to its own members and
22 the class.

23 So, to address your specific question. If I may
24 provide some background by way of context to help your Honor as
25 for the last 10 years.

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1 So I joined our fund as counsel, I joined the fund in
2 1999, and I have been counsel since 2001. In 2001, our board
3 of investments adopted a securities litigation policy by which
4 our legal office would evaluate and identify securities cases
5 and claims that the fund may have, and to, through that policy,
6 evaluate cases in which the fund may have lost on money on its
7 securities as a result of wrongdoing. I have been doing that
8 for the fund since 2001.

9 So, my primary responsibility is to oversee that
10 policy, which I've been doing. So I've looked at and assisted
11 our fund in several cases and taken an active role. We were
12 involved in *WorldCom* as an optout plaintiff.

13 THE COURT: I had the pleasure of coordinating or
14 helping to coordinate over 100 such actions, individual actions
15 as well as the *WorldCom* class action.

16 MR. HERRERA: Yes, your Honor. You did an excellent
17 job.

18 THE COURT: Well, thank you. Yes, I was familiar with
19 the optout strategy.

20 MR. HERRERA: Right. And I was in the courtroom here
21 for those, so I witnessed first hand.

22 I also can speak to the comparison that your Honor
23 asked about. And speaking candidly, I do see those, having
24 looked at that case and my experience in this case when I
25 initially evaluated both cases, I did see those as much

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1 different cases, so I'm not surprised that the fee schedules in
2 both are very different, which they are.

3 I think our fee agreement, because we had an
4 individual action was different than the class action which was
5 I believe lower and your Honor is referring to. And I think if
6 by way of observation, because I was very confident in the fee
7 agreement that we have in that case as I am in here, I think it
8 took into account the type of action and the claims and the
9 risks of prosecution in those cases.

10 *WorldCom*, as I saw it, it wasn't a matter of whether
11 you would prevail in that case. It was can we do better by way
12 of opting out. You know, your Honor, better than I do there
13 were government actions there, there was serious wrongdoing,
14 and which was established, and it was just a matter of how to
15 prosecute it in the best possible way. And for my fund's
16 perspective, how to recover the best that we could.

17 This case was, in my view, your Honor, very different.
18 There were, as your Honor noted, government actions that didn't
19 have people lining up to bring this case or to get involved.

20 And also by way of background, under the policy, one
21 of the procedures that we have in our office as counsel for our
22 fund is to go through a selective bidding and selection
23 process, and we did that here, we sent out requests for
24 proposals when we found out about this case. And those
25 proposals that we did receive, and if my memory serves me

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1 correctly, we received six to seven responses to our proposals.
2 And that helps us evaluate, it helped us -- I'm not a
3 securities or antitrust lawyer, your Honor, and is neither is
4 my chief counsel. It helps us evaluate the merits and
5 strengths and weaknesses of the case. It helps us evaluate
6 counsel that we may retain to represent us, and it helps us
7 evaluate the market for the types of fees that we would
8 reasonably pay for a case like this.

9 In our view, we are the client looking for a lawyer,
10 and we're only going to, A, get involved if is we can find the
11 best possible deal.

12 So in this case, when we received those proposed fees
13 which we asked for, there were some higher than what we
14 ultimately ended up with here and some lower. My job, because
15 my board is very sophisticated, ultimately when I take a
16 recommendation on whether to get involved in a case and a fee,
17 they are very tough on me, and did I do the best possible job.
18 In the back of my mind I thought one day I may be called before
19 the Court to explain whether I did my job.

20 So, in this case, I negotiated with counsel using the
21 fee proposals that I received. I believed, as I mentioned, I
22 received fee schedules that were higher, and some that were
23 lower. I did the best I could on behalf of our fund and the
24 class to get the best possible fee that I could here.

25 And I could tell you that having negotiated about 15

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1 prior fee schedules in securities class actions under PSLRA, I
2 went through the same process, and that's usually how it works
3 for us. I look at the highest, I look at the lowest, and
4 really what I want is the best attorney for the fund and the
5 class, and hope that I can get that attorney to the fee
6 schedule that I want. We were able to do that here.

7 Fees are a very important part of my evaluation, but
8 not the only one. Kind of like when I just remodeled my
9 kitchen, right, there were some contractors that were higher, I
10 didn't go with the higher one, I didn't go with the cheaper
11 one. And that's what we did here, your Honor. I'm very
12 comfortable where we ended up based on all the information I
13 had at the time.

14 I presented it to our board, as I always do, and we do
15 that in closed session. They grill me a little bit, ask me a
16 lot of questions about it. Ultimately they approved our
17 recommendation on moving forward. They approved our
18 recommendation by way of the attorneys that we wanted to
19 represent the fund and the class and the proposed fee schedule.

20 So, with all of that, I hope that addresses your
21 Honor's questions and concerns.

22 THE COURT: Enormously helpful to me. Enormously
23 helpful. Thank you. So, you don't have a standard grid that
24 once you choose counsel they must accept. This whole RFP
25 process means that the decisions that are made are very case

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1 specific, which weigh among, other things, quality of counsel
2 but also risks of litigation. Do I understand that correctly?

3 MR. HERRERA: Exactly, your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Very helpful.

5 MR. HERRERA: Thank you.

6 MR. BROCKETT: Your Honor, before you go on with your
7 fact findings, may I say just a word or two about *WorldCom*?
8 Would that be appropriate at this point?

9 Oh. Okay.

10 THE COURT: Sure. Sure. Mr. Brockett, educate me
11 about *WorldCom*.

12 MR. BROCKETT: I just wanted to point out there are
13 three aspects of *WorldCom* versus this case that I just wanted
14 to point out to the Court.

15 And the first is that, as your Honor noted in her
16 opinion, the fee agreement to the retainer agreement with the
17 grid was negotiated with the class counsel after there had
18 already been indictments of the insiders and after there had
19 already been a significant decision in the plaintiffs' favor on
20 the motion to dismiss. So, you weren't in the same posture
21 really as you are in this case. And I would submit that the
22 risk profiles of the case at the time these grids and fee
23 agreements were entered into were arguably very different.

24 The other point I would make is that *WorldCom*, as your
25 Honor noted, is, what, 13 years old now. And in between, since

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1 then, there have been a number of cases in the antitrust
2 context in particular that have elevated the pleading standards
3 and have also elevated the class certification standards.
4 Cases like *Twombly*, like *Walmart*, and the Third Circuit's
5 opinion in *Hydrogen Peroxide*, all have talked about the
6 rigorous analysis that the Court must do in order to certify a
7 class.

8 So, I do think it is fair to say that there have been
9 developments in the law that are pretty unique to antitrust
10 that make them arguably in some instances more difficult cases
11 to prosecute than securities cases.

12 And just a final comment I would make about *WorldCom*
13 is that of course here, in addition to the money, we also
14 secured what we believe is important injunctive relief for the
15 marketplace going forward.

16 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. Brockett. Yes,
17 well, we could spend a lot of time comparing the two cases, but
18 I'll spare you that.

19 Let me just say since I'm the one who inserted
20 *WorldCom* here, there is much one could say about the
21 differences between the two cases. But one point is that the
22 attorneys' fee award in *WorldCom* was higher than that that is
23 requested here.

24 The thing that stood out in my mind was the percentage
25 of the fund here, the request is substantially higher, more

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1 than twice the size of the *WorldCom* situation. But again,
2 there are so many differences, so, I don't think we need to
3 spend more time on that.

4 So your request here for an award of 13.61 percent of
5 the fund or just under 14 percent of the fund attorneys' fees
6 in the amount of \$253,758,000, and a request for approval of
7 expenses of roughly nine and a half million dollars. Of which
8 the majority, vast majority is fees for experts, and experts
9 were essential in this case and still are, as this week has
10 shown.

11 So, the first factor I'm supposed to weigh is the time
12 and labor expended by counsel. We have labor in terms of time
13 of close to, well, over 93,000 hours, which creates a lodestar
14 of, if we're going that route and I'm not, of over \$40 million
15 so the multiplier is a little over six.

16 The magnitude and complexities of the litigation, the
17 second factor, I've already addressed. The risk the litigation
18 I've already addressed.

19 The fourth factor, the quality of representation, well
20 it's been superb, and I think the fact that there is no
21 objection to this extraordinarily high fee request is
22 recognition of that fact.

23 The fifth factor is the requested fee in relation to
24 the settlement. Well, the notice told the class that the fee
25 request may come up to 14 percent. It's close to that figure

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1 but not right, right at that limit. And again, there were no
2 objections.

3 The sixth factor is the public policy considerations.
4 Counsel here, class counsel, made a significant investment
5 right out of their own pockets without any compensation in
6 order to litigate this case to the conclusion that they
7 reached. This was difficult, complex litigation, and so that
8 kind of investment was made against a background that reflected
9 significant risk.

10 I think there is a public policy that is important in
11 this land to encourage top-tiered litigators to pursue
12 challenging cases like this. Antitrust violations go to the
13 heart of our economy. Our economic health and stability as a
14 nation depend on the rule of law and trust in the fairness and
15 transparency of our marketplace. These issues are interwoven.
16 I think all of us can agree on that. All of us want to live in
17 a country where law is respected, where the court system can be
18 effectively used to reach justice, and where our marketplaces
19 are places that have investor confidence, so people, when they
20 put their money down, can trust that they're in a level playing
21 field.

22 So, with that said, then, I approve this request for
23 attorneys' fees. I've thought about it carefully, and I'm
24 happy to do so. I'm also going to approve the request for
25 payment of expenses.

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1 In that regard, I should note that on February 8, in
2 plaintiffs' supplemental brief, page six, they in essence asked
3 for approval from me that that at this point Garden City Group
4 and BRG costs be moved from administrative expenses to money
5 taken out of the settlement fund, at least up to the \$15
6 million cap, if I understood that request correctly, and I
7 approve that request.

8 That takes us to the incentive awards. While class
9 representatives should be compensated for out-of-pocket
10 expenses and lost wages, incentive payments should not
11 ordinarily be given to class representatives. Incentive
12 payments raise grave problems of collusion, as I've discussed
13 in *Reed v. Continental Guest*, 2011 WL 1311886 at *4. After
14 all, representative plaintiffs undertake to represent not only
15 themselves, but all members of the class in a fiduciary
16 capacity, and are obligated to do so fairly and adequately and
17 with due regard for the rights of those class members not
18 present to negotiate for themselves. When the settlement
19 provides for incentive awards to the main plaintiffs not shared
20 by other class members, a serious question arises as to whether
21 the interests of the class have been relegated to the back
22 seat.

23 In this case, however, there is no basis to find that
24 the class representatives have been tempted to receive high
25 incentive awards in exchange for accepting suboptimal

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1 settlements for absent class members. It is just not an issue
2 here. Nonetheless, I am disinclined to give such payments.

3 Before I continue with my analysis of the issue, I am
4 happy to hear argument, Mr. Brockett, from you or anyone else
5 who would like to be heard on the issue.

6 MR. BROCKETT: Thank you, your Honor. I just make a
7 couple of points. First, as the Court noted, there is no
8 objection to the incentive payments here. The class
9 representatives put in declarations, all of them have spent an
10 amount of time on the case. And the case of the Salix
11 individuals, I think is it a special case because they put
12 themselves at risk in their profession by going out in front
13 against major and powerful banks.

14 And also, in the case of the Salix principals, there
15 is an award under the settlement that will go to Salix. But
16 under the Salix agreement with the Front Point funds, which has
17 signed the claims, until a certain level is reached, the money
18 all goes to Front Point except for a little bit of money that,
19 reflecting positions the Salix principals had in the Front
20 Point partnership.

21 So, without an incentive award, the Salix principals,
22 all of whom devoted a substantial amount of time, very valuable
23 time to this case, will essentially go home with nothing. And
24 so, I do think it presents a compelling equitable circumstance
25 that cries out for the Court to award these individuals

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1 something to reflect the fact that they put their careers at
2 risk, they were willing to step up, and but for their
3 willingness to step up, and allow Quinn Emanuel to join this
4 case, this case could have gone a very, very different
5 direction and we may not be here today. So that's all I have
6 to say.

7 MR. SIMON: So first, I recognize completely your
8 leanings towards an incentive awards and I understand. I just
9 would say, and you've already alluded to it the way this case
10 was prosecuted with Mr. Herrera and LACERA, their involvement,
11 including with what they did during discovery was extraordinary
12 as well. Not only do we have a tremendous working
13 relationship, but they, every time we called and said we needed
14 something they were on it, they pulled staff. And I recognize
15 that's part of being a class representative. But, I would just
16 encourage the Court to think about whether or not the efforts
17 that they made should receive some type of compensation. Maybe
18 not the amount that you feel uncomfortable with, but some
19 amount. I want to encourage the Court to think about it, but I
20 know your leanings on the subject.

21 THE COURT: Thank you very much. As Mr. Brockett has
22 alluded to, Salix is an assignee here of the Front Point
23 claims. Front Point closed in roughly 2009, and Salix was
24 formed in 2010, and they decided to pursue the CDS case in May
25 of 2013. There are three individuals at Salix who formed Salix

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1 who have contributed to this effort and have asked through
2 counsel for an incentive award.

3 Mr. Felgner has been a proprietary trader of exchange
4 traded funds at Wedbush Securities since before this lawsuit
5 was filed. He applied for jobs with some of the dealer
6 defendants in 2014 and 2015 and did not obtain employment. He
7 spent at least 120 hours working to assist counsel in this
8 litigation.

9 Mr. Donovan since 2009 has been self-employed as a
10 sell-side trader and portfolio manager. He last summer in
11 roughly March got a consulting agreement with Quinn, but put in
12 very few hours under that consulting agreement before there was
13 a settlement. He's always operated on the sell-side of the
14 business, as I understand it, even when he was at Front Point.
15 He worked an enormous amount of time on this case, at least or
16 roughly 250 hours.

17 Mr. Grannan is a founding partner of an entity called
18 Scoville Risk Partners and it does valuations in the energy and
19 commodities sectors.

20 The Salix representatives argue that Wall Street banks
21 may retaliate against them and deny them employment or impair
22 their ability to operate successfully in the financial
23 industry, particularly to the extent that these individuals
24 wish to engage in buy-side trading.

25 That may be true, regrettably. I can't make a

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1 judgment about that. And if true, it is almost impossible to
2 demonstrate or rectify, and I recognize that.

3 Thankfully, however, each of these gentlemen has been
4 employed since the collapse of Front Point and during the
5 pendency of this litigation. None sought employment at the
6 defendants between 2009 and 2013, or at least as far as is
7 revealed to me. And only Mr. Felgner has sought employment
8 there since 2013. These three gentlemen will receive very
9 small personal recoveries as a result of their Front Point
10 holdings.

11 They've been of enormous assistance to Quinn, in roles
12 that I think LACERA fairly could not provide. They gave their
13 expertise in trading CDS and the CDS marketplace. Mr. Donovan
14 especially, in giving over six weeks of his time, was a major
15 assistance to the litigation.

16 So, my decision not to award incentive fees is not
17 taken lightly, and should certainly not be taken as a
18 reflection of any judgment I have about their contribution. I
19 know they have received thanks from counsel, and they should
20 feel it from the class as well.

21 But their endorsement of this settlement would mean
22 something different if they were advantaged in the way
23 absentees will not be. I think this might be a closer question
24 if LACERA were not co-lead plaintiff. They, these individuals
25 with Salix made the decision to continue as lead plaintiffs

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1 when they knew the class would have prominent and capable lead
2 plaintiff without them, and after I had appointed Quinn as
3 counsel for the class. I assume they did so because they
4 believed their work was important to help make the market more
5 transparent and open. And for that, they have the thanks of
6 all of us.

7 LACERA did a substantial amount of work here, and
8 because of its presence in the case it's given me enormous
9 assistance. I've been able to know that I had enlightened
10 leadership for the class, someone who could work hard, provide
11 appropriate oversight to counsel, and evaluate the settlement
12 fairly, and in a sophisticated way.

13 So, again, my decision not to award an incentive fee
14 to LACERA is not because I don't appreciate the work they did
15 here. It is critical.

16 There is an argument that LACERA makes that an award
17 to it of \$200,000 would encourage other institutional investors
18 to take active roles in similar important cases. They
19 underscore that they didn't expect an incentive award, and just
20 expected their pro rata share.

21 I am confident that LACERA will continue, with
22 Mr. Herrera's assistance and the assistance of others, to
23 evaluate with care what they can do for their fiduciaries, and
24 through that, for the American investing public.

25 That takes us to the plan of allocation. Let me

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1 describe the principles I'll apply to this portion of our
2 analysis.

3 A district court "has broad supervisory powers with
4 respect to the allocation of settlement funds." *In re*
5 *Holocaust Victim*, 424 F.3d, 146. The plan of allocation must
6 meet the standards by which the settlement is scrutinized --
7 namely, it must be fair and adequate.

8 A plan need only have a reasonable, rational basis,
9 particularly if recommended by experienced and competent class
10 counsel.

11 In the case of a large class action, the apportionment
12 of a settlement can never be tailored to the rights of each
13 plaintiff with mathematical precision. The challenge of
14 precisely apportioning damages to victims is often magnified in
15 antitrust cases, as damages in antitrust cases are rarely
16 susceptible to the type of concrete proof of injury which is
17 available in other contexts.

18 So the first issue I want to address is the Dodd-Frank
19 issue. This relates to an issue I raised at our conference
20 call on October 27 in which I inquired whether the compression
21 rate of 20 percent was appropriate for the entire period. But
22 now I raise it because I'm much more deeply involved with the
23 facts that counsel have kindly brought to my attention in this
24 approval process, so now I'm focused in particular on a single
25 objection that's been made about the compression rate for what

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1 I'll call the Dodd-Frank era.

2 Here, we have a compression rate chosen of 20 percent
3 for the entire class period. It is my understanding that the
4 theory behind the plaintiffs' case is that the bid-ask spread
5 in the CDS market, indeed in the securities market, decreases
6 when trading migrates to a more transparent, competitive
7 market. So, the compression rate is the theoretical overcharge
8 from the difference between the actual pricing in a market and
9 the but-for world, the spread in the absence of a conspiracy,
10 and here a 20 percent figure was chosen.

11 It is my understanding that the Dodd-Frank legislation
12 went into effect in this marketplace in roughly January of
13 2013, which is in the midst of our class period. And as part
14 of that reform, there was a requirement of realtime reporting
15 of a number of characteristics of a CDS trade, the price, the
16 time, the date, the nature of the trade. And public
17 dissemination of that information, and therefore, an
18 achievement of a certain level of transparency that was absent
19 before that reform, which, as I understood it, was one of the
20 goals of this lawsuit. So, to me, the existence of this
21 transparency should have resulted in a difference in the
22 compression rate.

23 Now, I understand the plaintiffs' argument, or at
24 least I think I do, that 20 percent of less is less than
25 20 percent of more. That's not my point.

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1 And so, my question is whether there shouldn't be a
2 different compression rate for whatever is the precise point in
3 time in which the marketplace achieved that greater
4 transparency. So it would mean during the Dodd-Frank era, let
5 us say just theoretically, already the spreads are tighter, so
6 the damage recovery is going to be less, even if we applied the
7 20 percent. But if we applied -- and I am just pulling a
8 number out of a hat, which is not what we would do if we
9 changed the spread, but just to make sure that counsel
10 understand what I'm getting at -- if the residual effect of the
11 conspiracy was such that during the Dodd-Frank era the
12 compression factor changed, and 10 percent or 5 percent is
13 really a more accurate compression rate, shouldn't we be using
14 that? And wouldn't it be fairly easy to make that adjustment,
15 because it's totally date driven, and you know, before
16 January 1st, 2013, and after January 1st, 2013, or whatever the
17 appropriate date is, you have two different rates, compression
18 rates. So, that's my question.

19 Anyone wish to be heard?

20 MR. OLSON: Your Honor, Steig Olson for the
21 plaintiffs. I'm happy to address the question.

22 THE COURT: Thank you.

23 MR. OLSON: So your Honor makes a number of very
24 compelling points, and certainly these are things we gave
25 consideration to. The model we present in this case is a model

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1 that we began building to litigate the case, and if we had
2 ultimately tried the case to a jury, we certainly would have
3 given consideration to adjustments in the compression
4 percentage. So the points the Court raises are completely
5 fair.

6 To articulate why we support the plan as it stands
7 today, I would stress that the unique thing about this market
8 is that the spreads themselves which we model are themselves
9 the most accurate and objective barometer of changes in the
10 market over time. They, the spreads are designed to detect
11 when risk factors go up and down, because of things like
12 greater efficiency and greater transparency in the market.

13 So our ultimate guidepost in putting together the plan
14 of allocation was to do it in the most objective way possible,
15 rooted in the data, and to avoid imposing assumptions on the
16 data that might to some class members appear that they favor
17 one class member over another.

18 We do believe that the model as it exists today takes
19 into account the additional efficiency and transparency brought
20 about by Dodd-Frank. It does it in a precise and granular
21 level that's driven by the data. So it does it on a
22 per-instrument basis because the innovations of Dodd-Frank, the
23 reforms of Dodd-Frank affected perhaps certain instruments
24 differently.

25 THE COURT: Really? In the CDS space?

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1 MR. OLSON: Well, that's what the data tells us.
2 That's what the data tells us. I'm happy to hand up to the
3 Court a chart that I can maybe use to illustrate this point if
4 you would like.

5 THE COURT: Do you have copies for others?

6 MR. OLSON: I have I believe 15 copies. I don't need
7 to -- I can just hold it up and make the general point.

8 THE COURT: It might help to be a little closer to me
9 than you holding it up where you are.

10 MR. OLSON: I have another.

11 THE COURT: Let's have a copy shared with the
12 objectors. And why don't you send four or five copies into the
13 jury box, and another chunk of copies out into the audience.
14 Anyone who feels they're deprived of an opportunity,
15 certainly --

16 MR. OLSON: I may have overstated the number I have.
17 I have four more.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, is there anyone who has been
19 deprived of a copy such that they prefer I not look at it?
20 Okay. I think you're free to hand it up.

21 MR. OLSON: Thank you, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: We'll mark this as Court Exhibit 1 for
23 this session. Okay.

24 MR. OLSON: What this exhibit demonstrates, your
25 Honor, is that the modeling of the spreads changes over time in

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1 a way that reflects the efficiency of the market, the risk
2 factors faced in the market. I should note that this
3 particular instrument is one of the index CDS, one of the most
4 frequently traded ones. It is the CDX investment grade
5 five-year tenor, which is the most liquid of this highly liquid
6 index.

7 THE COURT: Is this one of those that is subject to
8 the index rollovers?

9 MR. OLSON: Any index could potentially be rolled, but
10 this is not meant to implicate that issue.

11 THE COURT: That's not dealing with that issue.

12 MR. OLSON: Correct. What this is showing is how the
13 spreads changed over time.

14 And the point I would make, your Honor, is this chart
15 is going to be different for every single instrument, because
16 of the level at which we estimated the spreads. So these ups
17 and downs are going to be a little bit different for every
18 single instrument.

19 Dodd-Frank may have affected certain single named
20 instruments that are traded less frequently than it would have
21 traded -- than it would have affected this instrument.

22 What our approach does is really allow the data to
23 speak to us about that. So, one can observe that, as would be
24 predicted, spreads do decline after the passage of Dodd-Frank.
25 But what --

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1 THE COURT: Not really. Not on this chart.

2 MR. OLSON: Well, you're right, your Honor. It
3 doesn't happen abruptly.

4 THE COURT: It doesn't really happen at all. If it's
5 the beginning of 2013, where the Dodd-Frank went into effect,
6 we have spreads that are -- if I'm understanding this
7 correctly -- as typed during the period in 2010 to early 2011,
8 and indeed, right after the inauguration of Dodd-Frank, we had
9 a spike. If I'm reading this correctly.

10 Am I reading this correctly?

11 MR. OLSON: You are reading it correctly. I believe
12 that this would reflect that there is more trading after
13 Dodd-Frank at the lower levels of this instrument than at any
14 time before. Except for there are always spikes up and down,
15 of course. And so, there are some spikes we see here that are
16 much higher earlier in the period.

17 THE COURT: You know what? I don't think I'm reading
18 it correctly. Hold on one second.

19 (Pause)

20 THE COURT: So, the axis, the vertical axis is the
21 spread.

22 MR. OLSON: Correct.

23 THE COURT: And the horizontal axis is the date. And
24 the line conveys the volume at that intersection. Is that --

25 MR. OLSON: Yes.

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1 THE COURT: So --

2 MR. OLSON: It is a monthly weighted average.

3 THE COURT: Monthly weighted average. So, we were at
4 a spread of .02, roughly, in the period I referenced earlier,
5 and post Dodd-Frank.

6 MR. OLSON: There were times that that occurred,
7 correct. I do believe that this reflects that heading into
8 Dodd-Frank, there was a decline in bid-ask spreads.

9 There is, as your Honor probably observes, a spike. I
10 suspect if we drill down, we would find the reason for that.
11 But the point, the point that's meant to illustrate here is
12 that and what the spread data does allow us to do is actually
13 see what the trading data shows us about the improvements and
14 diminishments of deficiencies and risks in the market. The big
15 spikes are because of the financial crisis. The second big
16 spike is because of the European debt crisis.

17 The point is simply that we thought, since spreads are
18 themselves a barometer of market efficiency, the most effective
19 way of doing it would be to follow the spread. Doing it
20 through the compression rate approach, which would have been
21 possible, is to some extent more arbitrary. It is not driven
22 as much by the data. It is more driven by our intuitions.

23 That's the point I wanted to make about why we select
24 the approach that we did.

25 THE COURT: Anyone else wish to be heard?

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1 MR. KING: I would, please. Thank you, your Honor.
2 I'm Ben King, I'm here on behalf of Silver Point.

3 So, what the chart shows, obviously, is spreads over
4 time, and I understand that. But, it doesn't only -- the dips
5 and valleys and hills aren't only reflective of the amount of
6 information that's in the market, right. There's many, many
7 other reasons why the spreads can go up or could go down. Just
8 assuming that watching the spreads after a particular point in
9 time is going to give you sufficient information to see what
10 would have been the counterfactual world in which the
11 information wasn't provided, I don't think you can do that just
12 from the spreads.

13 THE COURT: I'm going to get to what drives spreads
14 later. I'm hoping to. But, I think it's mainly, as I
15 understand it, factors that are tied to the individual
16 instrument and the quality of the underlying company and the
17 market forces as a whole. Are you intending to refer to
18 something else?

19 MR. KING: No. What I was intending to show is that
20 this chart, you can't tell just from this chart what are the
21 effects of the Dodd-Frank Act and the release of additional
22 information. Kind of the alleviation of the effects from the
23 defendants' misconduct. Right. Because the spreads could have
24 gone down or could have gone up or could have stayed the same
25 for a variety of reasons. Perhaps the release of information

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1 is one of them, but perhaps not. Their contention that all you
2 have to do is multiply the same 20 percent to the pre
3 Dodd-Frank spreads to the post spreads will effectively capture
4 the effect of the Dodd-Frank Act is not true, and I think I can
5 demonstrate to you why in a pretty simple math problem.

6 They say before the Dodd-Frank Act you would use
7 20 percent as the compression factor, right. But let's suppose
8 for the sake of argument that after the Dodd-Frank Act there
9 were no more anticompetitive effects. That's not what I'm
10 saying, let's just pretend there were no more anticompetitive
11 effects at all. There are still going to be spreads, right?
12 Dealers are still going to charge rates for these trades. Yet
13 their 20 percent compression rate would still apply to that
14 post Dodd-Frank Act spread. There is no way that just tracking
15 the model of the spreads will capture the effect of removing
16 the anticompetitive conduct.

17 So what you have to do is you have to figure out,
18 well, what do we think that the impact of the anticompetitive
19 conduct was before the Dodd-Frank Act. And according to their
20 model they say that's 20 percent.

21 Then we have to think, well, how much did the
22 anticompetitive conduct affect the price of spreads after the
23 Dodd-Frank Act. You can't tell that just by looking at the
24 spreads. That might be one thing you want to look at but
25 that's not all you want to look at.

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1 That's why I don't think you can saying applying the
2 20 percent post Dodd-Frank and pre Dodd-Frank will be able to
3 capture the alleviation of the anticompetitive conduct from the
4 Dodd-Frank rate.

5 THE COURT: What should the compression rate be in the
6 Dodd-Frank era?

7 MR. KING: They cite one study, this is cited in
8 Mr. Unni's papers. He looks at a couple of indices, and for
9 one indice it decreased 43 percent after the Dodd-Frank Act.
10 For those people that traded on that indice, you might think
11 perhaps they didn't have any impact any longer from the
12 defendants' misconduct because the spreads went down
13 43 percent. For the other one they say there is a 12 percent
14 decrease.

15 I don't think that I can tell you exactly what the
16 spreads, what the compression rate should be before and after
17 the Dodd-Frank Act. I don't know how they came up with
18 20 percent.

19 So, but it is clear that it is less, right. We know
20 at least for some of these indices there is a substantial
21 amount of information that is exactly the sort of information
22 that is sought to be produced from the defendants. The whole
23 reason for this case is that they failed to provide some
24 information.

25 But the Dodd-Frank Act for many of the CDS indices

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1 require that information to be provided. So it is only
2 reasonable to assume that the compression percentage should be
3 less after the Dodd-Frank Act.

4 Do I have a particular solution to give you for how
5 much it should be? I don't. But I know it can't be the same.

6 THE COURT: Thank you so much. Anyone else wish to be
7 heard on this issue? Okay.

8 Well, I think I've explored this enough. If we were
9 to change the compression rate, we would be engaging in pure
10 speculation as to what that change rate should be. That's
11 point number one.

12 Point number two is I have one objection from our
13 entire class of sophisticated class members addressed to this
14 issue. One. I've never had a class that is composed -- well,
15 I shouldn't say that. Actually, this is a very sophisticated
16 class. If they felt there was some unfairness in applying the
17 same rate throughout the entire period, I think I would have
18 heard more about that issue.

19 So I think it is a theoretically interesting issue,
20 but I think Court Exhibit 1 convinces me that this is such a
21 complex market, that for us to have any confidence in choosing
22 a second rate, we'd have to have a lot more information and
23 empirical studies and academic research than we have available
24 to us. And I don't want to engage in pure speculation here.

25 Court Exhibit 1 shows that we were trading at or

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1 around the same spread point before and after the Dodd-Frank
2 Act for this single instrument.

3 We could of course expend more resources in exploring
4 this, but I don't think it is necessary, so we'll stick with
5 the 20 percent compression rate for the entire period of time.

6 So let's move to the covered transaction issue. This
7 may largely have disappeared as an issue. The background is
8 that there was an objection from Silver Point that some of the
9 covered transactions that they had proposed or some of the
10 transactions they had proposed be accepted as covered
11 transactions. They weren't sure they were going to get
12 satisfaction, and they were horrified to learn that they didn't
13 have any appeal rights should they be disappointed, and that
14 apparently comes from, at least all I could find is something
15 posted on the administrator's website which says the settlement
16 administrator's determination on a challenge is final and
17 non-appealable.

18 I'm more comfortable with a system that would allow a
19 class member to always appeal to the court, should an
20 administrator reach a conclusion that the class member feels is
21 wrong. Seems to me basic part of due process, the second
22 opportunity to be heard.

23 Is there any objection to giving class members appeal
24 rights if they are unsatisfied with the administrator's
25 rulings?

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1 MR. OLSON: No objections from the plaintiffs, your
2 Honor.

3 THE COURT: Okay. So, thank you, Mr. Olson. And
4 Mr. Olson, will you get me the appropriate order that would
5 take care of this issue?

6 MR. OLSON: Absolutely, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

8 That takes us to index rolls. By the way,
9 Mr. Brockett, is Dr. Unni here?

10 MR. BROCKETT: Yes, he is here.

11 THE COURT: Dr. Unni, could you stand. Dr. Unni,
12 thank you so much for your assistance to this Court.

13 DR. UNNI: Thank you, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Your submissions have been enormously
15 helpful to me. I expect, I hope you had a little help from
16 some attorneys sitting around here.

17 DR. UNNI: Not inappropriate assistance, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: No, not inappropriate. But they would
19 perhaps suggest to you that I needed a fuller explanation of a
20 term or two, and you wrote out that fuller explanation, and I
21 really want to thank you.

22 DR. UNNI: Thank you very much, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 So, I understand from Dr. Unni's submission of
25 April 1st at paragraph 27 that the plan of allocation includes

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1 an adjustment for index rolls, and I'm just stating this
2 because if I've got it wrong, please, you'll help me
3 understand. I understand that it is customary, indeed common,
4 that in March and September, index CDSs are rolled. That's
5 because the index CDS, or at least some of them, are updated.
6 And at that point in time, when they're able to be rolled by an
7 individual investor into a new series, they are rolled and a
8 new series number is assigned. And the investors may wish to
9 roll their exposure from one index CDS into the new series
10 because the index changes slightly, that is, the components of
11 the index.

12 So, because this is such a customary trading decision,
13 it's been looked at with some care by Dr. Unni and class
14 counsel, and they decided to reduce the spread to better
15 reflect what actually happens in the market by exempting one
16 leg of the trade or the transaction from inclusion in our
17 recovery model. And they were very conservative, at least they
18 describe it as such, in identifying which transactions really
19 reflect a roll from one series into another. So it has to have
20 occurred on the same day, be the same index, and have a
21 different series number. And the notional volume from the DTCC
22 data reflecting these rolls is something like close to \$70
23 trillion, so it is not insignificant.

24 Now, I have some preliminary questions about how this
25 single adjustment, and as far as I can tell this is the only

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1 adjustment that's being made, came about. So let's step back.

2 I'd like to know what notice the class was given and
3 through what mechanism initially of the plan of allocation, and
4 whether the index roll adjustment was incorporated into that
5 initial announcement. It is my understanding that it was not,
6 but I'm happy to be educated.

7 Then I'd like to understand the process that resulted
8 in the adoption of this adjustment. And it is my understanding
9 that for many of the suggestions that have been made by the
10 objectors, and perhaps other class members who haven't
11 objected, but have had communication with class counsel, other
12 adjustments have been considered, and I have a lot of paper
13 addressed to those adjustments that have been suggested by
14 objectors appearing before me, and Dr. Unni has explained in
15 detail why the other adjustments have not been appropriate.
16 And we'll get to that in a moment.

17 So, can someone give me some background on the plan of
18 allocation and how this adjustment came about?

19 MR. OLSON: I believe I have the pleasure of that,
20 your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Olson, are you the attorney that's
22 been working most directly with Dr. Unni? Don't be shy.

23 MR. OLSON: Some days I feel that way, but it was
24 certainly a team effort.

25 THE COURT: Team effort.

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1 MR. OLSON: I had taken a leading role to some degree,
2 and I really do appreciate your Honor singling out Dr. Unni's
3 work, because it has been tremendously impressive to all of us.
4 And he has not only helped explain these concepts to the Court,
5 but helped us work through them as well. And I'll also mention
6 Dr. Unni is here with two of his colleagues, Elizabeth Davis
7 and Jerry O'Connell, who have also been tremendously valuable.

8 THE COURT: Thank you.

9 MR. OLSON: So the issue of index rolls, well, let's
10 take a step back.

11 As your Honor noted earlier this afternoon, we
12 presented a version of our damages model to the defendants
13 fairly early on in this process. Because thanks to the work of
14 Dr. Unni and others, we believed it was sufficiently credible
15 to demonstrate how far along the process we were. And we
16 received feedback from the defendants at that time, in the
17 context of a mediation. They had the ability to identify
18 issues they thought where we were potentially overstating the
19 damages. And that's something we took into account.

20 The other thing that we took into account was not just
21 the work of Dr. Unni and others at BRG, but the industry
22 consultants we retained in the matter. And those involved,
23 include the Salix personnel you mentioned earlier, but we had
24 other industry consultant as well. We are talking about people
25 we selected because they had a tremendous amount to bear.

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1 As part of the process of building the model, after
2 the defendants had the ability to give us feedback and
3 criticism of it, and working with our industry consultants and
4 Dr. Unni, we identified the issue of index rolls as one we
5 needed to consider.

6 We then worked through a process that addresses that
7 issue, while meeting our fundamental guidepost here, which is
8 to address the issue in the most objective way rooted in the
9 data possible, so that we weren't imposing any assumptions that
10 weren't highly, highly defensible. Because our concern was not
11 to do things that one class -- may have pitted one class member
12 against another. We always wanted to take conservative
13 approaches rooted in the data as much as possible.

14 We worked with the BRG folks to determine whether
15 there was a way to do that using index rolls. I can say, and I
16 won't be able to recall the dates of all this, but we had
17 multiple phone calls involving the BRG team, and our industry
18 consultants. It wasn't one call, we circled back, we worked
19 through the issue with deliberation.

20 We ultimately came to the conclusion, based on the
21 input we received from our industry consultants, that there was
22 a conservative way to address the situation and the reduction
23 for index rolls that provided a very high level of confidence
24 that we were truly reflecting what the data displayed and what
25 the trade involved.

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1 Your Honor laid it out very well, but it involved a
2 number of criteria that led us to that conclusion. Ultimately,
3 it can be considered as avoiding a double counting by removing
4 the termination of the roll. That's a sort of simple way to
5 describe it.

6 I think your Honor was alluding to a reference to the
7 point of allocation in the preliminary -- in the notice to the
8 class. We gave a very general description at that time. We
9 were working through the complexities still at that point. But
10 I know we described it as a pro rata distribution based upon an
11 estimated spread inflation.

12 THE COURT: Was that displayed on the website that the
13 notice sent class members to?

14 MR. OLSON: Yes, the notice was presented on the
15 website.

16 MR. SIMON: If I may answer that question directly.
17 On the website posted as of January 11, 2016 was an overview of
18 the plan for distributing the settlement fund to claimants.
19 And paragraph 6(d) says "In addition, plaintiffs' consulting
20 experts have removed duplicate transaction records, such as
21 where a trade information was submitted to the DTCC by both
22 counterparties, and taken other steps to avoid double counting
23 of transactions or the overstatement of affected notional
24 volume due to index rolls."

25 MR. OLSON: That's where I was going next.

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1 THE COURT: Where do I have that document?

2 MR. SIMON: It is on the website.

3 MR. OLSON: It was submitted to the Court, and again
4 it was posted on -- it is Exhibit A, your Honor, to our
5 memorandum in support of final approval which was filed on
6 April 1st, 2016. And it had been, as Mr. Simon observed, the
7 class was told the plan, the detail plan would be posted on the
8 website by January 11. And it was posted on the website to all
9 class members by January 11.

10 THE COURT: What paragraph of that document?

11 MR. SIMON: The paragraph, your Honor, is 6(d) on page
12 three.

13 THE COURT: I missed that and I had read that
14 document. Thank you.

15 So, the index rolls were referred to in Exhibit A,
16 which is a copy of a document posted on the website available
17 to the class in early January?

18 MR. SIMON: Correct.

19 MR. OLSON: That's right, your Honor. January 11.
20 Does the Court have any further questions?

21 THE COURT: No. On that.

22 Does anyone wish to be heard on the index roll
23 adjustment issue?

24 MR. KING: Yes, ma'am. If I could be heard briefly.

25 THE COURT: Excuse me one second. Counsel, I don't

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1 know that that mic is on, so you just might have to keep your
2 voice up.

3 MR. KING: Okay.

4 THE COURT: We're taking steps to try to deal with
5 that if you could keep your voice up.

6 MR. KING: You're not the first judge to tell me that
7 I've been too quiet.

8 On the index rolls, one of the important things in
9 identifying, we have two complaints about the index rolls.

10 THE COURT: Excuse me just one second. This is
11 Mr. King again, right?

12 MR. KING: Yes, for Silver Point, yes. The complaints
13 about the way the index rolls were treated fall into two
14 categories. One, not enough were identified; and two, the
15 adjustment made is not sufficient on the ones they do identify.
16 There has been substantial back and forth between the -- we
17 never spoke directly with Mr. Unni to class counsel, and we
18 tried to figure out why he's not identifying more index rolls.

19 THE COURT: Yes, I don't want to deal with that issue
20 right now. I just want to deal with the adjustment rate.

21 MR. KING: The adjustment rate. Okay. I can deal
22 with that one as well. So, we and MF Global have presented
23 testimony through declarations from persons who are familiar
24 with the CDS industry. One is Julia Numar who is a trader at
25 Citibank, she is a dealer at Citibank. Mr. Austin Saypol who

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1 is a trader at Silver Point. And MF Global has introduced the
2 testimony of Mr. James Parascandola. You saw his declaration
3 I'm sure.

4 THE COURT: I've read every page.

5 MR. KING: Yes. All three of those testified to the
6 declarations that the adjustment that is being made by Mr. Unni
7 to take into account the decrease in spreads that are charged
8 on index rolls is insufficient, and it should be reduced
9 substantially lower. So he knocks out all of one leg of the
10 trades, so basically reducing the total spread by 50 percent.
11 But, according to their testimony, the leg should be reduced by
12 another quarter to make it consistent with what actually goes
13 on in the market.

14 Now, I don't know where they got their 50 percent
15 from, from their determination to drop one leg. They say they
16 spoke to some industry people, we don't know who they are. But
17 they're not before you. We have presented the declarations of
18 actual industry people for you, and they all uniformly say that
19 the adjustment that has been made is insufficient.

20 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

21 Mr. Olson.

22 MR. OLSON: I would just make two observations, your
23 Honor. One is those declarants certainly were uniform. In
24 fact, they appear to have copied each other's language and the
25 basis of their assertions was a single quote I believe one of

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1 them received outside of the class period.

2 Second point I would make is that this is a remarkable
3 case where actually the original objections proposed, some of
4 them at least, the exact solution we implemented. So, for
5 example, Anchorage exactly proposed that index rolls be reduced
6 by 50 percent, which is what we did, suggesting it was market
7 practice. So I do believe we found the most objective way of
8 doing this, and we support the adjustment.

9 THE COURT: So, I am going to accept the adjustment as
10 proposed by class counsel. It will involve exempting one leg
11 of the transaction, and no further adjustment need be made. I
12 don't find the declarations submitted by the objector to be
13 persuasive at all. And I agree that what we have to do is
14 proceed in a conservative way to make sure all class members
15 are treated fairly. And one single trade as an example outside
16 the class period is not persuasive that that's going to happen
17 if I adopt that across-the-board adjustment for the many years
18 and many trades at issue here.

19 So, I think that means at this point the plan of
20 allocation as proposed by class counsel is tentatively approved
21 by me, subject to hearing any further objections.

22 And we're now at 10 to four. And so, first of all, if
23 anyone wants to take a break that's fine. You're not captured
24 in this courtroom. I won't mind if you leave the courtroom for
25 a few minutes at all and return. You would be welcome to

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1 return.

2 But, Mr. Zelcs, am I pronouncing your name correctly,
3 sir?

4 MR. ZELCS: You are, your Honor, yes.

5 THE COURT: About how long did you want to make your
6 presentation, if you wish to make an oral presentation, and how
7 many separate issues would you like to focus on?

8 MR. ZELCS: Your Honor, I don't think it is necessary
9 for us to make an oral presentation beyond the declarations
10 that were submitted. We're happy to stand on those.

11 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. Zelcs. That
12 helps deal with the timeframe issue.

13 Okay. So Mr. King, did you wish to make an oral
14 presentation with respect to any of the objections made on
15 behalf of your client?

16 MR. KING: Yes, your Honor. I think I can be brief.
17 I think I could be done in 10, 15 minutes.

18 THE COURT: How many separate issues do you want to
19 addresses in those 10 or 15 minutes?

20 MR. KING: I think I am going to talk about two
21 issues.

22 THE COURT: Two issues? Good. I think then we're
23 able to take a break, all of us. And we'll be able to wrap
24 this up on this phase of dealing with the objections by 4:30,
25 which means that would give me time to, in the last half hour,

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1 deal with all remaining issues at least I am aware of.

2 So, we'll take a break for 10 minutes and resume at
3 4 o'clock.

4 (Recess)

5 THE COURT: Please be seated, counsel. So, Mr. King,
6 why don't we give you a good 10 minutes to deal with your two
7 issues.

8 MR. KING: Thank you, your Honor. So, one of the
9 issues I want to deal with is the nature of the data, and they
10 got the data from the DTCC warehouse as you are aware. But
11 what we have found in analyzing the data that they specifically
12 gave to us, so I'm sure you are aware, if you are a class
13 member you can contact class counsel and say we'd like to see
14 the data that our award is based on and they'll give it to you.

15 THE COURT: It is actually on the website accessible
16 to you, right?

17 MR. KING: They gave you a code and you go in. We
18 downloaded our data, and what we found is they have many of the
19 dates wrong. We don't know why. I don't know if it is a
20 problem in the DTCC dataset or which, there's 800 columns in
21 the DTCC dataset. I don't know which one they used.

22 For example, they show we completed trades on
23 Saturdays, which is impossible. That doesn't happen. We
24 reviewed our data and 21 percent of the dates are wrong. And
25 according to MF Global's declarant, 50 percent of MF Global's

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1 dates are wrong. I think this may help to explain why they
2 have not found as many index rolls as we thought that they
3 would based on the descriptions of what an index roll is.

4 One of the criteria for an index roll is simultaneity
5 or close thereto. If one of the trade dates is off then of
6 course it won't pick that up as a roll, even if all the other
7 criteria are met. So, everyone we've talked to in the industry
8 says that index rolls happen far more frequently than appears
9 Mr. Unni has found. We've been curious about that.

10 As you may have seen from the correspondence, we'll
11 suggest something and they'll say no, that doesn't work. Or
12 too many false negatives, false positives. Perhaps this date
13 issue is one of the concerns. Perhaps that's what driving the
14 disconnect.

15 So, we had many more things to say about these rolls,
16 but I think probably the simplest one I want to leave you with
17 is we're very concerned that the dates are not correct.

18 And I am not blaming Mr. Unni, he seems like a nice
19 man. I'm sure he's done a fine job. But it does seem like
20 some of the dates are wrong. Perhaps before they finalize the
21 distributions, they can go back and scrub the data and see if
22 they can get the dates right. That was my one point.

23 The second point I have regards what's known as
24 non-round tenors. So, most CDS, particularly index CDS are
25 traded on what's known as round dates, three, five, seven

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1 years. Some CDS are traded on non-round dates like 4.75, 5.25.
2 For reasons that are beyond me and apparently it is just
3 historical. The five-year tenors are much more liquid and much
4 more cheaper to trade. The spreads are much narrower on the
5 round tenors. They're much wider on the non-round tenors.

6 Mr. Unni had to find quote data from Markit or the
7 non-round tenors and apparently no such data exists or if it
8 does, it's sparse.

9 So what he does is he assumes that the quotes for
10 round tenors will also apply to the non-round tenors.

11 This will absolutely penalize the traders who trade
12 more proportionately in non-round tenors than in round tenors
13 because their spreads are assumed to be lower than they
14 actually were. We know that's not true.

15 Now the beautiful part about this criticism of the
16 model is with the index rolls, index arbitrage, and all the
17 other ones, the problem is identifying -- one of the problems
18 is identifying which of the trades is part of that package
19 deal. With the round and non-round trades there is not that
20 problem. It's evident from the data which trades are round and
21 which ones are not round.

22 So all you have to do, so you need to make an
23 adjustment and not use the quotes for the round trades, or if
24 you do, you have to make an adjustment upwards to properly
25 reflect what would be the price the person actually paid.

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1 The way it is now, we know for a fact that the quotes
2 assigned to the non-round tenors aren't right. There is no
3 question about that. Non-round tenor trades are much more
4 pricey. I'm not saying this is a bad guy or anything like
5 that. He seems like he did well. But it is a problem and it
6 is prejudicing clients like mine who happen to deal in
7 non-round tenors.

8 Those are my two points.

9 THE COURT: What percentage of Silver Point's business
10 was in non-round tenors?

11 MR. KING: I can tell you 25 percent of our damages
12 are from non-round tenor trades. So perhaps that translates to
13 25 percent of our CDS trades, but I'm not sure.

14 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. King.

15 MR. KING: Thank you, your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Olson.

17 MR. OLSON: Thank you, your Honor. I just begin by
18 observing that, as your Honor pointed out, we do have a highly
19 sophisticated class here who have been paying great attention
20 to this case. They have been able to review hundreds and
21 hundreds of thousands of their own transactions since they were
22 posted on January 29. And before the recent filings in this
23 presentation, no class member came back to us and said that
24 there's some fundamental problem with the dates of their trades
25 as recorded in the DTCC database. Of course this is the

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1 database of the industry, it is not anything Mr. Unni created.
2 And there is every indication that those dates are reliable
3 enough for a plan of allocation to proceed.

4 In fact, our experts did do cross checks to compare
5 the trade dates as they show up in DTCC with the confirms of
6 the trades that class members have been sending in as part of
7 the process where they can submit additional trades, and those
8 are matching up nearly all of the time.

9 Of course, in any massive dataset which we're talking
10 about here, there could be, for one reason or another, a few
11 dates here and there that are erroneous, data fields can be
12 erroneous. There is absolutely no indication that there is any
13 systematic problem that in any way affects the plan of
14 allocation.

15 Similarly, with respect to non-round tenors, there was
16 not a issue that was mentioned by any class member again until
17 the filings this week. I think that's an indication that this
18 is not a systematic issue that is a significant one to the
19 class as a whole.

20 As Dr. Unni explained in his supplemental declaration
21 on page 17, in responding to this new argument, the reality is
22 that the bid-ask quotes from the Markit quote database which
23 has over 3 billion transactions, that apply to non-round
24 tenors, are extremely infrequent. So there is just no reliable
25 way to address that issue.

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1 Unless the Court has any other questions.

2 THE COURT: No, thank you. I don't have questions
3 about the non-round tenor issue. So, Mr. King, with respect to
4 the wrong date issue, you've had access to your data since
5 January. When did you discover this problem?

6 MR. KING: I was made aware of it probably a week
7 before we filed our papers in response to the motion for final
8 approval. You know, we're just class members, right, so it is
9 not like we're in an adversarial position. I don't think that
10 our people thought it was necessary to go and scrub the data to
11 see when the dates were wrong. But then as we were preparing
12 for this hearing for our filing we realized this problem, yes.

13 THE COURT: How many trades are affected by the
14 erroneous date issue for your client?

15 MR. KING: There is 21 percent of our trades and I
16 don't know the raw number. I believe my client is here. Can I
17 confer with him for a second?

18 THE COURT: Absolutely.

19 (Pause)

20 MR. KING: So, we estimate that from all of our funds,
21 there are three Silver Point funds involved. You put them all
22 together, it is about 10,000 trades, about 25 percent of those
23 have incorrect dates. I think 4 percent of them have the
24 Saturday date problem and 21 percent of them have a wrong trade
25 date problem.

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1 THE COURT: How do you know it is the wrong trade date
2 when is it is a weekday? What have you done to identify it as
3 an incorrect date?

4 MR. KING: Sorry, your Honor.

5 (Pause)

6 MR. KING: We compared our own internal documents to
7 theirs, and we found a correlation between what's called the
8 assignment date, all right, so sometimes a trade will occur
9 where instead of buying or selling a CDS, you will assign your
10 rights to that CDS to another trader. It is effectively like a
11 sale, but it is a different form of selling perhaps, okay. On
12 those it seems to be a convention in the industry that those
13 are reported as one day late from the time the transaction
14 actually occurred. So in these situations where you have a
15 assignment as opposed to a true buy and sell, and the
16 assignment still counts as a transaction for purposes of the
17 class, those are recorded as one day off. So that accounts for
18 21 percent of the problem. The Saturdays are 4 percent of the
19 problem.

20 THE COURT: Have you been in touch with the
21 administrator to identify at least the Saturday issue and which
22 trades are affected by that?

23 MR. KING: No, I don't think so, because for our
24 purposes, it doesn't matter that much for our calculation of
25 our damages. What it matters is for identifying other people's

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1 index trades, because they're being assigned a bid-ask spread
2 that is wider than they actually paid. Our complaint about the
3 index rolls and the single name rolls is the model isn't
4 capturing other people's trades and single named roll trades.
5 So it is assigning broader spreads to them than they actually
6 paid. So when they get a broader spread, because the
7 distribution of the fund is pro rata, our payment goes down.

8 THE COURT: So, the identification of Saturday dates
9 for 4 percent of your transactions is not resulting, in your
10 view, in your client's view, in incorrect calculation of your
11 damages. You are concerned that if the Saturday date issue is
12 an issue for you, it may be an issue for other class members
13 too, and they will get a disproportionate share of the
14 recovery.

15 MR. KING: Correct.

16 THE COURT: Okay. First, I'm going to ask you,
17 please, to identify -- can you do this by Monday? -- to the
18 administrator, the Saturday dates that make up the 4 percent of
19 the 10,000 trades. So we can get this concrete and focused on
20 in a real hands-on way. Can you do that?

21 MR. KING: Yes, your Honor. I believe we can.

22 THE COURT: Thank you so much.

23 Mr. Olson, with respect to either of these issues, the
24 Saturday date trades or the assignment issue, is there anything
25 further that you wish to say?

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1 MR. OLSON: Just that, your Honor, our experts tested,
2 when this issue was first raised recently, whether the trade
3 date field was in fact the most reliable field existing in the
4 DTCC database to capture when a trade occurred, and reported
5 the results to the Court in Dr. Unni's supplemental declaration
6 including in a table at the end. And concluded definitively
7 that trade date, as would be expected and as the DTCC
8 anticipates, is the most reliable field for identifying when
9 trades occurred. I could --

10 THE COURT: I have the April 14 supplemental
11 declaration of Dr. Unni in front of me. Are you referring --

12 MR. OLSON: The discussion of the issue begins at page
13 20, paragraph 50.

14 THE COURT: Yes.

15 MR. OLSON: And Dr. Unni conducted tests and analyses
16 to determine whether there was an alternative payment or trade
17 related field in the database that was somehow more reliable
18 than the trade date field, and reports for a number of reasons
19 over the next couple of pages that the data indicates the trade
20 date field is the most reliable.

21 THE COURT: Thank you. I know that class counsel will
22 work with the administrator and Dr. Unni to look at the
23 Saturday date issue, and I know that this week, because of
24 these unexpected -- at least unexpected to me -- filings have
25 meant that we've had a lot of extra work to do together to get

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1 ready for today. So, I don't want to put unreasonable time
2 pressure on you to respond. But, do you think I could get a
3 supplemental report on this issue by maybe Thursday or Friday
4 next week?

5 MR. OLSON: I'm sure we can do it by Thursday or
6 Friday at the latest. We'll try to do it earlier.

7 THE COURT: Good. I have to say, it is my impression
8 that class counsel, the administrator, BRG have been enormously
9 responsive to the class, and there have been so many tests that
10 have been run and reported and described in Dr. Unni's
11 declarations to me to respond to various issues raised by the
12 class. So, I have a lot of confidence in their work. But they
13 can only respond if they're provided information that alerts
14 them to a potential problem and then perhaps a discussion can
15 clarify issues or put concerns to rest. And so, I don't expect
16 that today's hearing is going to end the period in which
17 questions are asked and answered. There is a fiduciary
18 obligation that class counsel and the administrator have to the
19 entire class that will last long beyond today. And so, I have
20 every expectation that if there is information or questions
21 presented, that they will be responded to in an appropriate
22 way. And I'm always available, always available, if there is
23 an objection or a question that I can help with, to give class
24 members confidence that their voice is being heard and their
25 concerns are being appropriately responded to. A simple

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1 letter, no longer than two pages, and I'll have a conference
2 call and we'll get it addressed and the schedule set if further
3 exploration is necessary.

4 So, objections were filed on February 29 by 5 sets of
5 class members. One of them is made by MF Global who with its
6 counsel Korein Tillery made an unsuccessful application to be
7 appointed lead plaintiff, and later declined an invitation to
8 be added as a named plaintiff. The other four are brought by
9 investment manager SABA Capital Management on behalf of certain
10 funds, and it is now represented by Korein Tillery as well.
11 The FFI Fund of related entities are represented by Ropes &
12 Gray. The Silver Point Capital Funds are represented by Reid
13 Collins, and Mr. King has appeared today on their behalf and
14 then heard. And the Anchorage Funds are now represented by
15 Joseph Hage Aaronson.

16 All five objectors criticized in one way or the other
17 the plan of distribution. None of them objected to the size of
18 the settlement, the terms of the injunction, or the request for
19 attorneys' fees. Silver Point and MF Global filed supplements
20 to their objections on April 12 which added new objections and
21 new analyses. SABA filed a supplement to its objection on
22 April 13. On April 14, FFI withdrew its objection to the plan
23 of distribution, but reserved its right to object to any
24 modification proposed by another objector. On April 14
25 Anchorage wrote to withdraw one of its objections. As a

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1 result, there are now four sets of objectors.

2 These objections, each of which I've read and
3 considered, do not provide a basis to adjust the plan of
4 allocation. The goal of the plan must be the equitable and
5 timely distribution of the settlement fund without burdening
6 the processes in a that will unduly waste that fund.

7 The sophisticated class is in an excellent position to
8 swiftly and competently assess whether the plan of distribution
9 and the model on which it is based achieves a fair distribution
10 of the settlement fund. It has spoken. With only four sets of
11 objections, the silence of virtually every member of the class
12 on this issue serves as an overwhelming endorsement of the
13 plan, and the fairness with which it will measure each member's
14 entitlement to a distribution.

15 The objections that have been made are deeply flawed.
16 Several objections in the first wave, which were the only
17 timely objections, have been essentially abandoned. The four
18 objectors have offered suggestions or analyses that contradict
19 each other. Certain objectors have taken positions in their
20 second objection that contradict those taken in their first.

21 Class counsel have taken their objections seriously,
22 done a great deal of work to test the objectors' hypotheses,
23 spending hundreds of thousands of dollars in doing so, and has
24 shown that none of the suggestions would improve the plan.

25 Let me discuss just a few objections in more detail.

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1 The objectors have not shown that adjustments should be made
2 based on the identity of the buyer. The bid-ask spreads in the
3 CDS market are driven by the nature of the particular
4 instrument being traded and market conditions more generally.
5 Specifically, it is driven by the types of product, for
6 instance, whether it is an index or single named product, the
7 terms of the CDS contract at issue, the company or companies to
8 which the product applies, and the market conditions more
9 generally. This analysis is supported by empirical studies,
10 the model on which the plan of allocation is based is specific
11 to each contract, and the daily spread for that product, or as
12 close an approximation as can be made. And that model properly
13 accounts for each of the major forces that should be taken into
14 account here.

15 It is noteworthy that in discussing discrimination
16 against classes of traders, the objectors disagree as to who
17 precisely was advantaged or disadvantaged in their negotiations
18 with dealers. In addition, they have not pointed to any
19 empirical research supporting their premise that a buyer's
20 identity had any material affect on the spreads, nor have they
21 presented any fair and efficient process for identifying which
22 traders belonged within the advantaged or disadvantaged class.

23 Despite these limitations, class counsel took the
24 objections seriously. Dr. Unni did an analysis of some of MF
25 Global's and Silver Point's most heavily traded CDS products

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1 during 2010 and 2011, and found no unfavorable bias against
2 them or evidence of systematic bias in the market.

3 Let me turn to the issue of packaged or linked trades.
4 The request by some of the objectors to make adjustments to
5 better identify linked trades beyond what has been identified
6 in the index rolls must also be rejected. As a practical
7 matter, it is an almost impossible task to perform. CDSs are
8 complex instruments, and they are associated with complex
9 trading strategies. Linkage and arbitrage can occur in so many
10 different ways, through the combination of so many different
11 instruments, that any attempt to construct a process to
12 identify the linked trades will necessarily be under-inclusive,
13 and will likely be over-inclusive as well. Indeed, linkage
14 occurs not just with in-linked trades within the CDS space, but
15 also by linking trades in the CDS space with trades in other
16 markets. If there were a reliable and effective way to
17 identify more linked trades, and an objective and fair model
18 for adjusting the spread associated with linked trades, I would
19 certainly consider it. And I believe class counsel would have
20 recommended it to me in any event. But the objectors have not
21 presented such a model. Nor is there basis for me to find with
22 any assurance that the use of the plan's current model treats
23 any particular class member or group of class members unfairly
24 in this regard.

25 I've appointed separate counsel for identified

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1 subclasses in the past in other cases, and I would do so here
2 if I deemed it appropriate. But I have no basis to find that
3 it would be appropriate, much less necessary.

4 It is, of course, theoretically possible to imagine
5 that further work could identify with some reliability some
6 particular kind of linked trade associated with some particular
7 kind of trading strategy. And perhaps, even, to show what
8 adjustment should be made to the spreads applied to that subset
9 of linked trades. But there is no reliable evidence or
10 analysis that has been presented to me that this could be done
11 quickly or without further significant expenditure of the
12 settlement fund, that the work would capture all of the
13 allegedly linked trades, or even any material number of linked
14 trades, or that the identification would have a significant
15 impact, much less improve the fairness of, the way the
16 settlement fund is distributed across the class. Moreover, it
17 would certainly delay distribution to the class, and delay is
18 costly to the class.

19 Moreover, and finally, other class members may have
20 additional well-placed objections regarding special treatment
21 for any newly identified subset of linked trades associated
22 with a particular trading strategy.

23 Class counsel is correct, if the trading strategy of
24 any of the four objectors was so unique that the plan of
25 allocation is unfair to them, and they have not made any

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1 attempt, really, to show that it is so, then they should have
2 opted out.

3 That leaves us with what I think is the last issue,
4 and that is the Rule 7 bond.

5 There has been an application by plaintiffs' counsel
6 for me to impose a Rule 7 bond if there is an appeal, and it is
7 entirely premature for me to address that issue. But, just in
8 case that might happen, I thought it would be of help to one
9 and all for you to have a statement from me of the principles
10 of law I expect to apply if an application is made to me.

11 Rule 7 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure
12 provides that the district court may require an appellant to
13 file a bond or provide other security in any form and amount
14 necessary to ensure payment of costs on appeal. A Rule 7 bond
15 is prospective in its focus and relates to the potential
16 expenses of litigating an appeal. *Adsani*, 139 F.3d, 70, n.2.

17 The term "costs" in Rule 7 refers to all costs
18 properly awardable under the relevant substantive statute or
19 other authority. In other words, all costs properly awardable
20 in an action are to be considered within the scope of the rule.
21 *Id.* at 72. The *Adsani* court explicitly rejected a definition
22 of costs that would limit it to those enumerated in Rule 39.

23 As explained in my *General Electric* decision, 998 F.
24 Supp. 2d, Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure
25 allows the court of appeals to award damages to appellees who

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1 are confronted with frivolous appeals. *Id.* at 151. An appeal
2 is frivolous for purposes of Rule 38 when it is totally lacking
3 in merit, framed with no relevant supporting law, conclusory in
4 nature, and utterly unsupported by the evidence. *Id.* at 153.
5 Accordingly, when an objector lodges a frivolous appeal to a
6 class action settlement, a district court may impose a Rule 7
7 bond in the amount of the additional administrative expenses
8 that are reasonably anticipated from the pendency of the
9 appeal. *Id.*

10 A Rule 7 bond may also include attorneys' fees where
11 the district court concludes that the court of appeals might
12 award attorneys' fees as costs under Rule 38, because the
13 appeal is frivolous. *Scholnick*, 820 F.2d, 15; and *In re 60*
14 *East 80th Street*, 218 F.3d, 118-19.

15 In setting a Rule 7 bond, a district court must not
16 create, however, an impermissible barrier to appeal. I'm back
17 in my *General Electric* decision. As such, there are at least
18 three factors that are relevant in assessing whether a Rule 7
19 bond should be imposed. They are: The appellant's financial
20 ability to post the bond, whether the appeal is frivolous, and
21 whether the appellant has engaged in any bad faith or vexatious
22 conduct. Of course, the first two are of the greatest
23 importance.

24 As the court of appeals explained in *Adsani*, the
25 purpose of Rule 7 appears to be to protect the rights of

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1 appellees brought into appeals courts. In setting the amount
2 of a Rule 7 bond, a district court may prejudge the case's
3 chances on appeal. It is neither bizarre nor anomalous for the
4 amount of the bond to track the amount the appellee stands to
5 have reimbursed.

6 Though there is some reference here to the ability to
7 award attorneys' fees because this is an antitrust action, I
8 don't find that that provides a basis for an award of
9 attorneys' fees through this bond, because of course the
10 antitrust laws work in a very selective way to shift attorneys'
11 fees. They can only be shifted in the appropriate case against
12 a losing defendant.

13 Now, I want to thank Mr. King for appearing today and
14 bringing to my attention the issues he and his client most care
15 about. And of course, Mr. Zelcs, you didn't speak, but I've
16 read your papers with care. And while I don't find any merit
17 to the points that you raised, I believe they deserved careful
18 consideration, and I'm hopeful that the process that class
19 counsel and the administrator and their experts have put in
20 place will help satisfy your concerns and your clients'
21 concerns.

22 And again, I urge you, if you don't receive a
23 satisfactory response in any way, you should feel free and your
24 clients through counsel should feel free to contact me, and
25 I'll do my best to get a response and address any issue you

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1 have to raise. It is important to me that every class member
2 feels heard and treated fairly.

3 Mr. King.

4 MR. KING: I want to say thank you, and thank you for
5 giving me the opportunity to confer with my client when I was
6 arguing earlier. I appreciate it.

7 THE COURT: Of course, of course.

8 Counsel, we have finished my list of agenda items, and
9 we still have time about 20 minutes to address anything that
10 has not yet been covered. Mr. Brockett?

11 MR. BROCKETT: I just have one small item, your Honor.
12 In my supplemental declaration in support of the expenses --
13 this relates to the expenses -- on page nine I give a full
14 account of the expenses up through April 1st of 2016.

15 THE COURT: Can you give me that page number again,
16 please.

17 MR. BROCKETT: Sure. Page nine of my supplemental
18 declaration. It is appendix B, but it's labeled page nine.

19 THE COURT: Yes. I have page nine, appendix B.

20 MR. BROCKETT: Yes. Your Honor previously had noted
21 that the amount of expenses that class counsel were seeking was
22 9.5 million. The updated number, which is the actual number
23 which was part of our expense reimbursement request is
24 10,086,000, which includes the additional expenses on top of
25 the 9.5 between the end of the year and April 1st.

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1 THE COURT: Thank you. I approve that amount.

2 Let me just see if I can find my original set of
3 papers. I have it. In the January 29 filing, and I think we
4 talked about this at the time of preliminary approval, that I
5 wanted counsel to get to the class at an early point in time
6 their motion for attorneys' fees and the backup so the class
7 could have a full opportunity before objections and before an
8 optout decision to figure out what they wanted to do here. And
9 I thank class counsel for doing that.

10 So, I went through the portions of the appendices, the
11 declarations, the attachments to that submission with some
12 care, looking at the way counsel organized their time, the
13 reports were by individual attorneys, they reflected how much
14 time individuals worked on this matter. And I have a
15 declaration from Mr. Simon, too, with similar supporting
16 information. And then I had the reports on expenses, and I
17 looked at that, including the amount for travel and meals, and
18 I read the descriptions of how those charges had been dealt
19 with.

20 But, outside professional services, which are the
21 heart of this, the creation of the damages model, that
22 understanding of where the injury was and how it could be
23 measured, and of course more recently, the response to the
24 objections and the responding to the class questions, even if
25 they weren't objections, takes time, it takes money, and it's

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1 central to the representation of the class. I reviewed it with
2 care, and have no hesitation in approving it.

3 Anything else, Mr. Brockett?

4 MR. BROCKETT: No, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Any defense counsel wish to be heard? I
6 should say there was a submission of course in which defendants
7 preserved their right to disagree about the merits of the
8 litigation without objecting to entry of judgment in accordance
9 with their settlement agreements. And I read that as well. No
10 defendant wishing to be heard. We heard from the objectors.
11 And I want to thank everyone for their assistance today. Thank
12 you.

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